**In the Claims**

Please amend claims 7, 13 and 22 as set forth below. Please cancel claim 15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

**Complete Listing of the Claims**

Upon entry of the present amendments, the claims will stand as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

Claims 1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting in a subject a cellular proliferative disorder associated with pancreatic cancer or colorectal cancer, ~~in a subject~~ comprising:

a) contacting a nucleic acid-containing specimen from the subject with an agent that provides a determination of the methylation state of ~~ppENK~~ a preproenkephalin (ppENK) gene; and

b) identifying aberrant methylation of regions of the gene or regulatory region, wherein aberrant methylation is identified as being different when compared to the same regions of the gene or associated regulatory region in a subject not having said cellular proliferative, thereby detecting in the subject a cellular proliferative disorder associated with pancreatic cancer or colorectal cancer ~~in the subject~~.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the regions of said gene are contained within CpG rich regions.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein aberrant methylation comprises hypermethylation when compared to the same regions of the gene or associated regulatory regions in a subject not having the cellular proliferative disorder.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the regions comprise regulatory regions of the gene.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the agent is a pair of primers that hybridize with a target sequence in the gene or associated regulatory region of the gene.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid-containing specimen comprises ~~a tissue selected from the group consisting of brain, colon, urogenital, lung, renal, prostate, pancreas, liver, esophagus, stomach, hematopoietic, breast, thymus, testis, ovarian, and uterine~~ colonic tissue or pancreatic tissue.

14. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid-containing specimen is selected from the group consisting of serum, urine, saliva, blood, duodenal fluid, pancreatic fluid, cerebrospinal fluid, pleural fluid, ascites fluid, sputum, stool, and biopsy sample.

Claims 15-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~methd~~ method of claim 12, wherein the primers pairs are selected from

5'-TTGTGTGGGGAGTTATTGAGT-3' (SEQ ID NO:115);

5'-CACCTTCACAAAAAAAATCAATC-3' (SEQ ID NO:116); and

5'-TGTGGGGAGTTATCGAGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:117);

5'-GCCTTCGCGAAAAAAATCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:118).

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the cellular proliferative disorder is pancreatic cancer.